

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method for making a lightweight valve, the method comprising:

providing a valve body blank including a valve stem and a partially hollow valve cone;
providing a valve disk cover blank; and

welding the valve body blank to the valve disk cover blank using compression connection welding;

wherein the partially hollow valve cone includes an interior space and a partially conically shaped wall and the valve disk cover blank has a joining area having an outer circumferential edge, and wherein the welding includes welding the outer circumferential edge to the partially conically shaped wall.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the compression connection welding includes friction welding.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the compression connection welding includes resistance compression welding.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 18, wherein the resistance compression welding includes at least one of projection welding and capacitor discharge welding.

Claims 20 and 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the lightweight valve is a combustion engine valve.

Claim 23 (new): A method for making a lightweight valve, the method comprising:
providing a valve body blank including a valve stem and a partially hollow valve cone;
providing a valve disk cover blank; and
welding the valve body blank to the valve disk cover blank using compression connection welding;
wherein the valve disk cover blank includes a partially truncated cone-shaped boundary area and the valve body blank includes an interior space delimited by a linear edge, and wherein the welding includes contacting the boundary area to the linear edge so as to form a ring-shaped linear contact area between the cover blank and the valve body blank.

Claim 24 (new): The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the compression connection welding includes friction welding.

Claim 25 (new): The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the compression connection welding includes resistance compression welding.

Claim 26 (new): The method as recited in claim 25, wherein the resistance compression welding includes at least one of projection welding and capacitor discharge welding.

Claim 27 (new): The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the lightweight valve is a combustion engine valve.

Claim 28 (new): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the valve body blank includes a support structure extending from the valve stem through the partially hollow valve cone and wherein the welding includes positioning the valve disk cover against the support structure.

Claim 29 (new): The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the valve body blank includes a support structure extending from the valve stem through the partially hollow valve cone and wherein the welding includes positioning the valve disk cover against the support structure.